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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, April 10, 1986 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended April 5 totaled an estimated 16.4 billion ton-miles, 1.0 percent above the corresponding week of 1985, the Association of American Railroads reported today. The 1985 week included the Good Friday holiday.

Cumulative volume for the first 14 weeks of 1986 was an estimated 237.3 billion ton-miles, up 0.2 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended April 5 totaled 359,867, down 1.8 percent from last year, and 1.3 percent below the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were up 1.8 percent in the West, but down 5.0 percent in the East and 4.2 percent in the South.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 15 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. However, loadings of chemicals and allied products were up by 2,824 cars (11.3 percent) and loadings of lumber and wood products showed a gain of 1,488 cars (22.4 percent).--Twelve of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended March 29 totaled 97,549 trailers and/or containers, 8.2 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 13 weeks of the year was 1,222,801 trailers and/or containers, up 12.7 percent from 1985.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 4/05/86:

	Loadings in Week ended April 5, 1986		Change from Corresponding Week 1985			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	19,213	D	1,364	6.6	I	1,140	6.3
Other farm products	2,821	D	84	2.9	I	89	3.3
Metallic ores	13,086	D	533	3.9	D	1,606	10.9
Coal	100,052	D	7,244	6.8	D	7,856	7.3
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	13,459	D	22	0.2	I	462	3.6
Nonmetallic minerals	8,675	D	1,298	13.0	I	523	6.4
Grain mill products	10,200	I	1,000	10.9	I	593	6.2
Food and kindred products	10,794	D	101	0.9	D	86	0.8
Primary forest products	10,242	D	1,573	13.3	I	129	1.3
Lumber and wood products except furniture	8,129	I	1,488	22.4	D	439	5.1
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,847	D	1,075	7.7	D	123	0.9
Chemicals and allied products	27,770	I	2,824	11.3	I	3,130	12.7
Petroleum products	4,429	I	328	8.0	I	667	17.7
Stone, clay and glass products	10,331	D	365	3.4	I	598	6.1
Coke	4,647	D	469	8.8	I	872	21.9
Metals and products	9,340	I	317	3.5	D	135	1.4
Motor vehicles and equipment	18,096	D	1,422	7.3	D	1,024	5.4
Waste and scrap materials	8,125	D	423	4.9	I	422	5.5
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	9,731	D	981	15.5	D	202	3.7
All other carloads	61,961	I	4,475	7.8	D	2,048	3.2
LCL traffic	417	D	15	11.4	I	14	13.6
Total Cars Loaded	359,867	D	6,537	1.8	D	4,880	1.3
Corresponding week of 1985	366,404						

	1986	1985	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (14 weeks)	5,166,283	5,152,601	I 0.3

Estimated revenue loadings (in billions):

13 weeks ended March 29	220.9	220.5	I 0.2
Week ended April 5	16.4	16.2	I 1.0
14 weeks cumulative	237.3	236.7	I 0.2

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